

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: km@PACT.ORG.PE (Kris Merschrod)
Subject: [4903] EXPLORER II Shipping - Don't rush 'em
Message-ID: <m0t9Hyl-000AnFC@rcp.net.pe>

Dick,

It is hard to believe that there are so many "eager beavers" asking about delivery; I'm probably at the far end of the supply line, but I can be patient. Take your time and do the Explorer IIs just right.

Kris
OA4DBO
(KA20IG)

obQRP -- worked from Buenos Aires to Bonaire with HK0 thrown in on 10 meters in less than 30 minutes today - 8 watts PEP into a vertical. Yes, SSB QRP works in these contest days.

km

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: Jeffrey Hetherington <jhetheri@freenet.npiec.on.ca>
Subject: [4910] For Sale - HW-8
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9510282323.A3406-0100000@freenet>

I have a Heathkit HW-8 for sale. It is mint, having been stored for the past 10 years. It still works like new, and the cosmetics are perfect. The ham it belongs to is no longer interested in the hobby 8-).

He is looking to get \$US 150.00
E-mail me if you are interested, or would like further information.

See Ya!
Jeff - VA3JFF

=====
L. JEFFREY HETHERINGTON
Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada
E-Mail : jhetheri@freenet.npiec.on.ca

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [4900] Glowbugs
Message-ID: <73484C19AA@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

I do not know about you but when I tried to get into the glowbug listing, it got returned as "undeliverable". I know not why as I had the listing from here in front of me.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [4892] GM-XX
Message-ID: <199510281534.PAA26204@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Dave and the Gang,

I am sorry that I missinterpreted the 72 article and didn't read the fine print. I was thinking, that since it would do 20 and 15 that all bands were available. My mistake and I apologize for the error on my part. Stupid is - stupid does.....

Can we talk you into going ahead with the lower bands? Please.
Pretty Please.....

I dug out the ariticle:

Quotes from key sentences that I read. :-)

"This article describes the 20 meter version, but operation on other bands is largely identical."

"The choice of IF frequency is used for all bands except for 40 meters and possibly 30 meters."

Ooops. The last two sentences, which I didn't get in fine print 'cuz I was so excited about the new receiver like the old NN1G series...

"The GM-20 and its 15 meter brother will be available on October 15, with additional bands added shortly thereafter. See you on the high bands!"

So, if you don't have the 30M version ready yet, go ahead and make

my order read 20M. Send me email when the 30M version and 40M version is ready to rock and roll. :-)

I'm posting this to qrp-l to publicly apologize for what is obviously my error. Hope that I didn't cause someone to order something that wasn't ready yet.

As I crawl back into my little cave,

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [4905] Harmonic now a ham
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951028171358.14413B-1000000@ume>

Well, my 8 year old passed his basic exam today.(Current youngest in Canada?) (85%..needed 60%) He promptly made several 2 meter contacts on the drive home! This all started with building a regen reciever last winter. Now we start with the code!!! (And Dad should have more time to look for the fox.....audiotapes and computer programs can take over some of that job.) The bizzare part: he is in grade 3 and just learning to write....he had not got down to the capital Z's yet so the only help he needed today was signing his name on the exam form and license application.

Sorry for taking up the bandwidth but I wanted to share it with you folks on this list.

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)	*	VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor	*	NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary	*	"Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: JKXM17A@prodigy.com (MR KENNETH A SMITH)
Subject: [4908] I Love This List
Message-ID: <013.03752407.JKXM17A@prodigy.com>

First, let me say that, if you allow for a new subscriber's opinion, I

would like to see the list remain intact without splitting. I have to agree with Ed DeBuvitz in that I see QRP-L as a dynamic electronic QRP magazine (with articles that are always up to date rather than 2 or 3 months behind). If you don't like what you see you can always fast forward until you do.

I would like a couple of opinions on TT's Argonaut II. I've seen the positive interest for the HW's 7, 8 & 9 and also the Argonaut 509 & 515. Is the Argonaut II considered here to be a well designed transceiver? Does it have good AGC action, CW sidetone level and pitch control, an RF gain control, an easy band selection scheme and other niceties of engineering?

73, Allen - AA0YU

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: "Adam O'Donnell" <adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Subject: [4907] Large loops Ladies & Gents??
Message-ID: <199510290239.WAA07735@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

Has anyone messed around with large loops? Like wrapping a wire around a house? Where do you feed it? What do you feed it with? Is it usually easier to tune up than a random wire?

72 for now.

--
Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG
Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG

"I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."

-- Albert Einstein

"Normal people worry me."

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [4899] OHR
Message-ID: <733C5863DE@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Saw something yesterday in my qrp-l digest that I decided to reply to.

I saw the listings in here about getting Explorer II at a special price. My problem was that I had been so busy, I never read the digests to know about it. I called Dick as I had bought an Explorer kit last May. It had been sitting in my office since then as I was spending all my time remodeling the house and getting married.

I finally started the kit a couple weeks ago. I only put in a half-hour per time (NOT per day) so it is not going that fast. But, I am enjoying it. I had to call Dick as I was shy a couple capacitors which I thought I could have lost here in the office. I offered to pay for those NPO types but he said he would just mail them to me. I mentioned the Explorer II and he said I could still get in on it. That was two weeks ago so that may be off now.

I re-called him yesterday as I had not gotten the capacitors yet. Dick said they were probably on the kit order and that was why they had not yet been sent, so he was going to check and get them in the mail yesterday. During our conversation, he did say that the Explorer II shipping was about two weeks off but did not mention why.

So, if you are looking for your Explorer II, it will be in the mail shortly. They have not been shipped yet.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [4913] periodicals list update
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951029074917.543359796B-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

The Periodicals List in the qrp-l archives has been updated to reflect recent changes in addresses and personnel for both the CO QRP Club and the NE QRP Club (both new and renewal subs). As always, if there is information that needs correction or updating for any of the periodicals, please let me know.

Someone recently asked a question about which club(s) to join. One way to answer that question (but not the only way) is to look at the periodicals list for which club gives you the kind of reading you are interested in. After scanning the list, you can ask for specific information that will help you make the best decision for you.

-73-
LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: time@tir.com (time)
Subject: [4895] Still looking for QRP rig
Message-ID: <9510281640.AB08969@sun>

I am still on the hunt for a multiband QRP rig such as a Heathkit HW-7, HW-8, HW-9 or Argonaut 505 or 509. Looking only for a multiband rig. If you have something to sell please tell me about it. I missed the last Argo 505 but one phone call, arghhhhhh !!!

Tim

Amateur Radio: WB8OGM
Internet: time@tir.com
Packet Radio: wb8ogm@aa8gl.#nemi.mi.usa.noam

"Sometimes imagination is better than knowledge"

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: k7yha@ix.netcom.com (Richard H. Arland)
Subject: [4891] T-T Argonaut 509 SOLD!
Message-ID: <199510281520.IAA02386@ix.ix.netcom.com>

Hi Gang:

The Argo 509 I advertised has been sold. Thanks to all who responded.

If I could locate a truck load of those "lil' darlin's" I could retire!

73 rich K7YHA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4911] tuner
Message-ID: <9510290349.AA25681@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Jay, I also had (still have) a SST tuner. The small one was really something - The big one at least had a swr indicator in it. I guess the real tragedy was the cost for what one got. I am sure the core on the toroid saturated when any amount of power hit it. I changed one of the caps to a multisection so I could use it more effectively. I have it about half converted to a phasing network for the vertical array. Oh yes, the case was a fairly heavy gauge metal and did hold up ok. 72/73 Ray, W5XE

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4901] Re: Glowbugs
Message-ID: <9510281932.AA18317@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Tim, I have sent a couple of messages to the Glowbugs@theporch.com and they have gone thru ok. Maybe there was a temporary downtime or something like that - you might give it another try. Ray, W5XE
El Paso, af852@rgfn.epcc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4909] Re: Harmonic now a ham
Message-ID: <9510290325.AA21385@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Rick, please pass along congratulations to your son. I am sure he is very excited and you are very pleased with his accomplishment. Hope to work you both soon. Good Luck. 72/73 Ray, W5XE/V31XE,
El Paso

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [4906] Re: Long Wire Tuner
Message-ID: <951028223318_92141650@mail04.mail.aol.com>

You can make a simple longwire tuner using a single variable capacitor and a single tapped or rotary coil. For 1.8-29 Mhz, values should be 200-350 pF

max and 25-30 uH max. The more L/C headroom you have to play with, the more likely you will be able to match a length of wire without pruning on all bands. The tuner is a simple "L" network. The coil is in series with the antenna. The cap is shunt between the antenna and tuner chassis (counterpoise) at the output side of the tuner.

You MAY be able to get by with a 350 pF broadcast cap if the rig is CW-only and stays under 5 watts, more power or ssb and you up the RF voltage across the cap, also RF voltage varies with antenna impedance.

Other tuners designed for the incorrect practice of force-feeding coax on the wrong band will also work with random wires. Just use a banana plug to the coax center conductor at the tuner output. You can even use a balanced tuner, one balun leg to the wire and the other balun leg to a counterpoise wire (don't ground).

I bought an SST tuner and what a pile of doody! The tuner was rated 300 watts, longwires, and 18.-30 Mhz. My 70 watts on 1.9 Mhz melted down the crummy toroid core in the tuner... which was not enough turns to act as a balun below 7 or 10 Mhz.

Neon lamps or #47 incandescent lamps will indicate RF in a tuner but brilliance will vary with antenna impedance and current. 4 watts into a wire which is low-Z on 7 mhz might light up the lamp, 4 watts into the same wire (which is high-Z) on 14 Mhz may mean you have to look to see the lamp.

Neon lamp hookups may have resistors or one leg not connected due to the high RF voltages involved. #47 and other pilot lamps in series with the antenna lead may require a resistor across the lamp to limit current.

Don't worry too much about antenna length. Get a length that works with your tuner on all nine bands. If you have to prune something, start with the counterpoise wire.

Happy Stealthing

Jay

WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995

From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@compuserve.com>

Subject: [4893] Re: Long Wire Tuner (long)

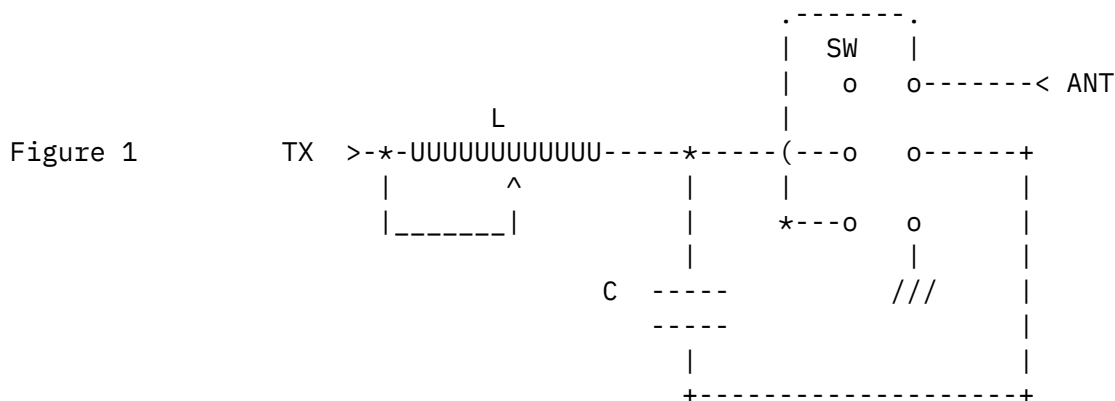
Message-ID: <951028153440_74740.3166_EHB145-1@CompuServe.COM>

Here's some info about a little homebrew tuner I use which covers both of the above cases (series and L).

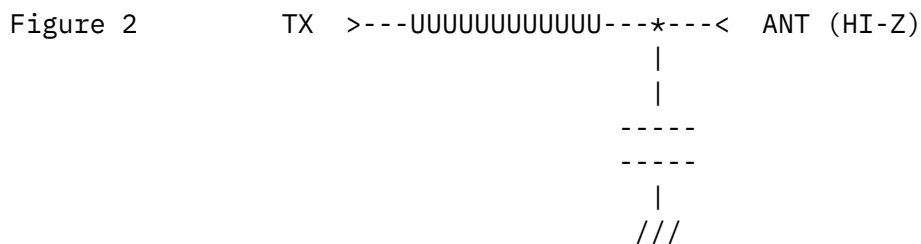
A SIMPLE AND FLEXIBLE TUNER FOR QRP

For portable QRP work, I often use either an end-fed half-wavelength wire or a quarter-wavelength wire for an antenna. A simple "L" network (with the antenna attached to the capacitor side) provides a good match for a high-impedance load, such as a half-wavelength wire. A series L-C circuit can be used to match a low-impedance load, as presented by a quarter-wave wire. I wanted to build a simple tuner which could be optimized for either situation with the flick of a switch. Most importantly for me, I wanted to make use of available parts from my junk box.

Starting with the typical "L" configuration, I added a DPDT slide switch, as shown in Figure 1.



With the slide switch in the DOWN position, the configuration is a basic L circuit, as shown in Figure 2. This configuration works well with wires which are multiples of a half-wavelength.



With the slide switch in the UP position, the inductor and capacitor are

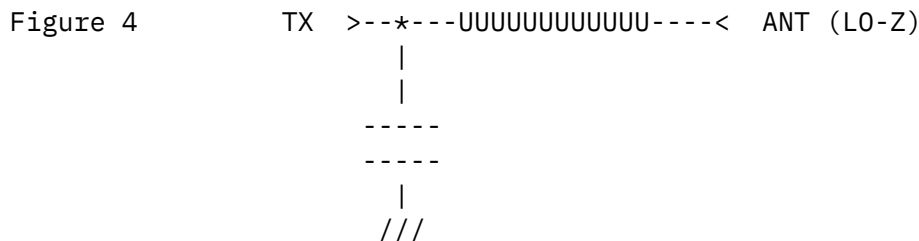
now in series, as shown in Figure 3. This configuration works well with a quarter-wavelength long wire.



The values of the parts aren't particularly critical, but here's what I used:

- L - 40 turns of #22AWG enameled copper on a plastic 35mm film canister. Tapped in 8 places with a rotary switch to select the taps.
- C - 220 pf air variable capacitor. The shaft **must** be insulated from the chassis.
- SW - DPDT slide switch

I used an S0-239 jack for the input connection and a binding post for the output connector. If you use two identical connectors for the input and output, you can also reverse the connections and get yet a third configuration shown in Figure 4.



Antenna tuners (or transmatches) are great projects for the budding homebrewer. They're fairly easy to build from scratch, usually very forgiving with respect to component values, and very useful to have around the shack. While I haven't tested this little tuner on every band with every conceivable load, it has performed well for me on 30 and 40 meters, the bands I use most often in the field. It should do a respectable job on just about any random wire antenna.

No scientific breakthrough here. Just a simple antenna tuner with a fair amount of flexibility built in.

73, Craig LaBarge WB3GCK
Phoenixville, PA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: [4894] Re: Long Wire Tuner (long)
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951028084147.18378A-100000@crl11.crl.com>

Thanks Craig for the nice info on an easy to build QRP antenna tuner.
Hopefully it will be incorporated in some of the new rigs the different
fellows construct. I would like to add one usefully modification. Add a
#47 lamp in series with the Antenna Output for an RF indicator. No need
for a SWR bridge just tune for maximum RF flow into the antenna.

de stan ak0b

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4896] Re: Long Wire Tuner (long)
Message-ID: <9510281651.AA16611@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Nice tuner write-up Craig. You might consider posting it to the
Glowbugs list also, as some may find it useful there as well.
72/73 Ray, W5XE, El Paso

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: kellner@usa.acsys.com (Richard G. Kellner)
Subject: [4897] Re: NorCal40A, KC-1 & straight key
Message-ID: <9510281654.AA13772@fox.acsys.com>

>> From: genem-qrp@hpswtgm.cup.hp.com
>> Subject: [4858] Re: NorCal40A, KC-1 & straight key
>> Apparently-To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
>>
>> Hi Bob,
>>
>> >I had exactly the same question, and got stuck where you did with the same
>> >results. If you get an answer direct to your Email, would you please forward
it
>> >to me?
>>
>> Will be glad to.

>>
>> >I also assume I have to decouple the straight jack from the motherboard, but
>> >haven't tried it...
>>
>> I have, and this is where I became confused. I cut the PC board trace going to the
>> tip of the straight key jack, and connected the HK line to the tip, thinking it
>> was isolated. Same problem! I don't know what's going on, unless there's
another
>> trace on the top of the board, but under the jack.
>>
>> I'll let you know if I hear anything.
>>
>> 73
>> Gene
>> aa6iy
>>

Bob and Gene,

I have done this with the Sierra and the KC1, and yes, the straight key needs to be decoupled from the circuitry that's being keyed (and hence from the output of the KC1). The easiest way is to simply cut traces to the straight key jack and reroute the straight key to the handkey input of the KC1. On the Sierra, I had to cut two traces, one on each side of the board. You can check your schematic to ensure you get all of them. Don't forget that you might have to add some jumpers to restore circuits which you might have broken by cutting traces.

Basically, you are connecting the straight key only to the input of the KC1 and letting the KC1 do all of the keying. Hope that helps. If not feel free to e-mail direct to me.

In my set up, I get a nice clean sidetone when using the paddles but I get a harsh sidetone when using the handkey. I have not discovered why yet. Since the circuits being used are essentially the same in both cases, my first guess is that the "hash" is coming from the PIC since it is executing different code in the two cases. I would be interested whether you both experience this symptom.

72, Rich W5RXP

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: Goran Hosinsky <hosinsky@royac.iac.es>
Subject: [4902] Re: RTV / silicone to silence relay
Message-ID: <9510282130.AA21152@royac8.royac.iac.es>

Hi!

I would be very interested in your comments on the Omni rig. My TS520 I bought second hand in 1978 and seems to come the time now to upgrade it and I am looking around the different rigs there are in the market.

73 Goran ea8yu hosinsky@royac.iac.es

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: JessQRP@aol.com
Subject: [4904] Re: SWL-30 and case
Message-ID: <951028182021_56981324@emout04.mail.aol.com>

The SWL-30 does comw with the case, pots, knobs, etc if you order it that way. Last I knew the cost was \$89.00 including the RIT. I have one on the air and enjoy it a lot.

Just contact Dave Benson at Dbenson@aol.com for current information.

Best
Jess

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: "Eugene S. Tehansky" <tehansky@atc.ameritel.net>
Subject: [4898] Re: T-T Argonaut 509 SOLD!
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951028130523.32083A-100000@atc.ameritel.net>

On Sat, 28 Oct 1995, Richard H. Arland wrote:

> Hi Gang:
>
> The Argo 509 I advertised has been sold. Thanks to all who responded.
>
> If I could locate a truck load of those "lil' darlin's" I could retire!
>
> 73 rich K7YHA
>

So what it there that Ten Tec didn't understand about selling them. I guess you only have to divide profits by a handfull (2) of people, Ten Tec was/is a little bigger. Thank goodness for OHR, Index, Wilderness, Kanga, Small Wonder, A&A, 624, (this is from memory...! I'll

go look...). The mind draws a blank. And Ten Tec is still trying. Maby things arn't as bleak as the average pessimist (sp) might think.

From the reports I get on the ICOM 706 and from the performance of my personal radio, FT-890, I don't know that we could ever depend on the Big 3 to produce a real QRP radio. Even if they sell their radios without big finals, even if they make the small finals super efficient, the receiver and bells and whistled draw more current than my son's hair dryer anyway. To some extent, I consider qrp to consider overall impact on the environment. 3500 milli-amps on receive isn't qrp even if it will only put out milli watts of power on transmit!

What started that! Oh yea, "I could retire".

de aa3av Gene in rain washed Saint Mary's County

P.S. I beg the forgiveness of those I forgot, even if I have gotten e-mail from you within the week. Old age takes its toll.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Oct 29 09:36:29 1995
From: Phil Wheeler <pcw@netcom.com>
Subject: [4912] Re: tuner
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9510282252.A17945-01000000@netcom22>

I had a similar meltdown in an old MFJ tuner (circa 1980). It had a torroid as the inductor in an L network. My current MFJ tuner has an air core inductor, which is really the way to go. I'm not sure how they currently do the smaller tuners these days.

Phil (pcw@netcom.com)
aka W6TUH